

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Speech Therapy
Case Number: 0200183	Appeal Decision: Overturned
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for speech therapy services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient has a medical condition and that an abnormality in a part of the brain is likely the speech issue. Therefore, the condition is not developmental and speech therapy services should be covered by the health plan.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Home Health Care
Case Number: 0200213	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for home health aid services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient was already receiving hospice care which sufficiently took care of the patient's needs. Additional skilled care was not medically necessary and therefore not a covered benefit.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Home Health Care
Case Number: 0200247	Appeal Decision: Partially Overturned
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for skilled nursing care in the patient's home including physical therapy.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that skilled nursing services as well as home health aid services are appropriate for injection medications. However, physical therapy is no longer needed on a regular basis since there is a maintenance program in place.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Speech Therapy
Case Number: 0200272	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for speech evaluation and therapy to determine an appropriate treatment.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient's speech issues are developmental. The patient showed progress in early intervention programs demonstrating the condition as experimental. Speech therapy for developmental conditions is not a covered benefit under the health plan's contract.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Home Health Care
Case Number: 0200295	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for home health aid, home physical therapy, and home nursing services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that continued rehab and therapy services are medically necessary. However, they do not require a home setting. The patient's condition has improved to a point where the patient is no longer home bound. Therefore, the requested home care is not the most appropriate level of care for this patient at this time.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Home Health Care
Case Number: 0200324	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for a visiting nurse for home health care.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the medical documentation provided does not support the contention that the patient is home bound. The patient continues to have skilled care needs, but these can be rendered in the outpatient setting as the patient no longer requires home health care.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Occupational Therapy
Case Number: 0200334	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for occupational therapy.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient's diagnosis is defined as a chronic, severely incapacitating, life-long developmental disability. Since it is developmental, occupational therapy is not a covered benefit beyond early intervention services.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Cognitive Rehab.
Case Number: 0200344	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for outpatient cognitive rehab services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient has no realistic potential for significant recovery. The types of goals stated in the treatment plan are not covered by the health plan. At this time the patient is in the chronic rehabilitation stage and these services are not medically necessary.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Speech Therapy
Case Number: 0200389	Appeal Decision: Overturned
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for speech therapy services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that a medical problem is the etiology of the patient's speech disorder and speech therapy is the appropriate treatment.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Speech Therapy
Case Number: 0200396	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for speech therapy services	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient's language impairment is not due to injury, trauma, or medically based illness or disease. An evaluation of the patient's auditory process found age appropriate abilities in all assessed areas. The speech deficit can be addressed in a school setting.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Physical, Speech, and Occupational Therapy
Case Number: 0200416	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for physical, speech, and occupational therapies.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the services are primarily needed to foster normal development and can therefore be considered educational in nature. According to the Disabilities Education Act, the family can apply to its school district for services to be provided within the school setting at no cost to the patient.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Cardiac Rehab
Case Number: 0200425	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for inpatient pulmonary and physical rehabilitation.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that there is no evidence of a need for acute level nursing or intensive therapy. There is no indication that the patient would be able to tolerate the intensive level of treatment. Acute inpatient rehab is not the most appropriate level of care for this patient.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Speech Therapy
Case Number: 0200433	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for speech therapy services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient's speech diagnosis does not fall into the health plan's definition of "medical necessity". There is no formal neurological evaluation that would support the pediatrician's claim that the speech disorder may have a neurological basis. Without evidence of a neurological basis, speech therapy services are not medically necessary for this patient.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Home Health Care
Case Number: 0200444	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for visiting nurse services at the patient's home.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the home nursing services were requested "were for psychological issues....she does not have a life threatening issue that would be jeopardized by removal of home nursing services." Psychological support is not an indication for home skilled nurse services.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Home Health Care
Case Number: 0200447	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for home health aid and physical therapy at the patient's home.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that there is no expectation that any intervention will improve the patient's condition significantly within a reasonable period of time. Services would be to maintain the patient's current state and would be considered custodial. Services are neither medically necessary nor a covered benefit.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Physical Therapy
Case Number: 0200479	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for physical therapy services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the type of physical therapy requested is not the standard therapy for the condition of this patient. This therapy is not in widespread use and is not yet supported by scientific evidence for use with the condition of this patient.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Physical Therapy
Case Number: 0200493	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for physical therapy services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that records demonstrate no substantial change in subjective complaints and objective findings. Functional assessment is without significant change. The physical therapy services appear to be of maintenance value only, which is not a covered benefit.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Speech Therapy
Case Number: 0200497	Appeal Decision: Upheld
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for speech therapy services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient's diagnosis does not appear to have any proven relationship with receptive and expressive language delays. It is difficult to prove that this overall language delay is due to the medical diagnosis because there is no medical evidence to support this statement. Denial of coverage is upheld.

Appeal Type: Rehabilitative Services	Appeal Category: Speech Therapy
Case Number: 0200504	Appeal Decision: Overturn
Case Summary: Patient requesting coverage for speech therapy services.	Reason for Decision: External review agency determined that the patient's condition is a potentially reversible disorder that left untreated could have life-long adverse consequences. Aggressive treatment is clearly indicated. Continuing speech therapy is the most appropriate level of service and is known to be effective in improving health outcomes.